CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1.   A method comprising:

a video source device providing n bits of copy control information to a video

3   recording device;

4   each of the video source and recording devices incorporating said n bits of

5   copy control information as part of an initialization value; and

6   each of the video source and recording devices initializing a cipher unit with

7   said initialization value to practice a symmetric ciphering/deciphering process

8   employed by the video source and recording devices to protect video transmitted

9   from the video source device to the video recording device.

1   2.   The method of claim 1, wherein each of said incorporation of said n bits of

2   copy control information as part of the initialization value by said video source and

3   recording devices comprises incorporation of said n bits of copy control information

4   as most significant bits of the initialization value.

1   3.   The method of claim 1, wherein each of said initialization of a cipher unit by

2   said video source and recording devices comprises initializing a register of the

3   cipher unit with the copy control information incorporated initialization value.

1   4.   The method of claim 3, wherein each of said initialization of a register of the

2   cipher unit by said video source and recording devices comprises initializing a

3   register of a round function of a block cipher.

1 5.   A video apparatus comprising:

2   a cipher unit to generate a sequence of ciphering bits to cipher video to be

3 transmitted by the video apparatus to a video recording device, the cipher unit

4 including a register to be initialized with an initialization value incorporating n bits of

5 copy control information; and

6   a communication interface coupled to the video recording device to provide

7 said n-bit copy control information to said video recording device.

1 6.   The video apparatus of claim 5, wherein said initialization value incorporates

2 said n bits of copy control information as its most significant bits.

1 7.   The video apparatus of claim 5, wherein said cipher unit comprises a block

2 cipher, and said register is a register of a round function of said block cipher.

1 8.   A video apparatus comprising:

2   a cipher unit to generate a sequence of deciphering bits to decipher ciphered

3 video to be received from a video source device, the cipher unit including a register

4 to be initialized with an initialization value incorporating n bits of copy control

5 information; and

6   a communication interface coupled to the video source device to receive said

7 n-bit copy control information from said video source device.

1 9.   The video apparatus of claim 8, wherein said initialization value incorporates

2 said n bits of copy control information as its most significant bits.

1   *10.   The video apparatus of claim 8, wherein said cipher unit comprises a block*

2   *cipher, and said register is a register of a round function of said block cipher.*

1   *11.   In a video source device, a method comprising:*

2   *providing a video recording device with n-bits of copy control information;*

3   *incorporating said n-bits of copy control information as a part of an*

4   *initialization value;*

5   *initializing a block cipher with said initialization value;*

6   *operating said block cipher to generate a key for use by a stream cipher to*

7   *cipher video to be transmitted to the video recording device.*

1   *12.   The method of claim 11, wherein said incorporation of said n bits of copy*

2   *control information as part of an initialization value comprises incorporation of said n*

3   *bits of copy control information as most significant bits of the initialization value.*

1   *13.   The method of claim 11, wherein said initialization of the block cipher unit*

2   *comprises initializing a register of a round function of the block cipher.*

1   *14.   In a video recording device, a method comprising:*

2   *receiving from a video source device n-bits of copy control information;*

3   *incorporating said n-bits of copy control information as a part of an*

4   *initialization value;*

5   *initializing a block cipher with said initialization value;*

6   *operating said block cipher to generate a key for use by a stream cipher to*

7   *decipher ciphered video received from the video source device.*

1   *15.   The method of claim 14, wherein said incorporation of said n bits of copy*

2   *control information as part of an initialization value comprises incorporation of said n*

3   *bits of copy control information as most significant bits of the initialization value.*

1   *16.   The method of claim 14, wherein said initialization of the block cipher unit*

2   *comprises initializing a register of a round function of the block cipher.*